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NSC BREEFING

NO CHANGE IN CLASS

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NEXT REVIEW DATE

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NASIR TRIP TO USSR

- I. Nasir apparently intends to make his repeatedly postponed visit to Moscow in about three weeks and probably will visit one or two East European satellites as well.
- II. Nasir will be the first major Arab leader to visit Moscow and the Kremlin will extract maximum propaganda from the trip.
- III. Moscow probably will offer to re-work its separate aid agreements with Syria and Egypt into a single agreement with the United Arab Republic.
 - A. This agreement could easily be portrayed as a new program re-emphasizing Soviet willingness to assist the underdeveloped countries.

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B. Nasir's foreign exchange shortage will probably lead him to seek to make some kind of deal to get hard currency (rather than arms or goods) for Egyptian cotton.

IV. Nasir is reported to believe the trip should serve to balance any impression Moscow has gained that Nasir is falling back into the Western camp.

A. He also wants something to get his United Arab Republic off to an impressive start in foreign affairs.

1. In this context, we have a report that he wishes to discuss the Palestine problem as well as the basic Soviet stand on the Middle East.